Dear Senators and Representatives,

I was unable to attend the physical meeting today, so I am emailing my testimony to you.

I truly feel as a reputable citizen of the State of Connecticut I DO NOT want my rights infringed upon with this proposed gun ban law. I am a 64 year old female, and have my pistol permit and I own a few hand guns and a rifle. I am asking all of you to take heed of all the testimonies, whether in person or emailed, to do the right thing and NOT put this law through. This state of Connecticut is the CONSTITUTION STATE, and it should continue to be just that. Guns do not kill, people do. If you take away the rights of all of us who believe in the 2nd Amendment, we DO have the right to keep and bear arms. First of all you took GOD out of our schools, and that's when guns went in by criminals. In many states where guns are not allowed, crime is up. I, as a citizen of the United States of America in Stratford Connecticut DO NOT want my rights taken away, should I need to defend myself or someone else, should the need arise. Too many women have been raped and murdered and brutally beaten. If you people only understood that once you go through a gun safety course to get a pistol permit, you learn to respect that firearm. Many, many people are so uninformed about the use of firearms and so they panic when school shootings happen and etc. These shootings are done by criminals, not law abiding citizens like myself. Should my husband be away overnight somewhere and someone comes into my home and tries to harm me, I WANT to be prepared to defend myself. I will NOT give up my right as a gun owner, and I will NEVER give up any of my firearms to anyone. I am a very happy member of the CCDL and proud of what they stand for and proud to be one of them. I have many members of my family who have served in the Navy, Marines, Army and etc. They fought for all of us. My ex-husband was drafted in the Army and served in Viet Nam. He didn't have a choice but went over and fought to keep us all free in the United States of America. I will stand up for our God given right to keep and bear arms. I believe in the 2nd amendment completely and DO live in Connecticut in the CONSTITUTION STATE as we are called. As I stated before guns do NOT kill, people do. As for an assault weapon, an assault weapon is ANYTHING that is used to harm someone, as in a baseball bat, an ice pick, a knife, a hammer, and etc. I would also like to comment on abortions!!! That is down right ending a human life. Is abortion outlawed today????? How about people using cell phones and driving. How about drunken drivers who kill also. I send you my email testimony and am pleading with you NOT to pass this gun ban law. I thank you for taking the time to read my testimony, I am only praying that you not only read it but actually HEAR what I am saying. God bless you all!!!

Respectfully yours, Cathy Staurovsky Stratford, Connecticut